

Raritan Valley Arts Association

President: Linda Arnold

September 1998 Newsletter

Newsletter: Diana W. Patton

497 Stony Brook Drive

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Warm Weather Greetings!

The main reason for this early newsletter is to let you know that because the Somerset County Library will be undergoing an extensive building expansion program, our meetings for now will be at the Pluckemin Presbyterian Church---this lovely historic white-painted, tall-steeped building is right on Rt. 202-206 in Pluckemin. Our meetings will be as follows: Sept. 14, Oct. 19th, and November 9th, beginning, as usual, at 7:30 pm. For our first meeting on the 14th Program Chairwoman Debbie Tintle has arranged for renowned artist Robert Sakson to demonstrate in watercolors. The multi-award-winning artist, member of the American Watercolor Society, the New Jersey Water Color Society, and the Garden State Watercolor Society, is also an excellent teacher.

Because the library is having building done where their administrative offices are, these offices are now moved to the meeting rooms. The actual lobby so far, is fine, and so---RVAA will have a bonus show with receiving Sept. 1, from 10-12. Some of you have already responded to Linda and me that you will be in the show; if others are interested, please call Linda at 647-3610 immediately. We should be able to hang two pieces from each of you. This is not a judged show. The \$5. fee is needed because our new meeting places costs money, unlike the library.

V.I.P. RVAA dues are due in September. This is especially important now so that we may pay for our space and for our great demonstrators. Single membership is \$22., family membership is \$32., and student (high school and under) membership is \$10. You may send a check made out to RVAA to our Membership Chairman, Ed Golubiewski at 516 Thompson Ave., Bound Brook, 08805, or bring it to him at our September meeting.

Rose Marie Rodin, our Hospitality Chairwoman, will be asking for finger-foods, cookies, brownies-type of edibles, at the first meeting; a sign-up sheet for volunteers will be passed along. If you wish to bring some goodies to our September meeting, great! and please call Rose Marie at 725-0125 to let her know of your early generosity.

President Linda Arnold has news of two places which would like to see your work--one is the gallery cum frame shop "Wallflowers", on Olcutt

Square in Bernardsville; the other is a nice new restaurant in Martinsville. You may ask Linda (647-3610) for info, or just go there yourself! Wallflower's number is 908-204-1972; please ask for Abby.

Now, you might know already that RVAA member Lynn Bigge will be doing the copying and mailing of our newsletter (yes, I'm still writing it; just try to shut me up--no, please don't)--anyway Lynn has kindly taken over that task from Larry and Doris Haines. As it happens--serendipity--Lynn, who is a realtor as well as an artist, is handling the selling of the oldest house in Martinsville, a beautiful, historic house, with three fireplaces, which belonged to one of RVAA's first and longtime members, Eunice Fais. Her son is selling the house; some of Eunice's paintings still grace the walls. The reason for my mention of this? Lynn tells me offers are coming in from developers who'd like to buy for the land, and tear down the house. Lynn and I are distressed that such an historic house be torn down--so, since it is a good and very reasonable price, if any of you art and history lovers know anyone who is thinking of relocating to the Somerset County area, you might want to call Lynn at 732-356-3613.

And finally, did you know that moths may eat natural hair watercolor brushes, if left out in the open and not used for a long period of time? One of our members discovered this; the member knows it was moths because of the little larvae-type remains. (no, not my brushes)

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Note: because my vacation, this is being written the end of July. I will save everything I receive after this early writing for October Newsletter.

Our longtime friends and helpers, Doris and Larry Haines--Doris of the lovely florals and Larry who for as long as I can remember has kept our mailing list and made all the copies of this Newsletter--anyway, Doris and Larry have moved to Glencroft, apt. 101, 3 Glen Hill Road, Danbury, Connecticut, 06811-4976. Their phone number is 203-798-2744. We all wish them the VERY BEST and hope they will keep in touch and also visit us occasionally!

Jo Coudert has some arts-literature news. She has three animal stories in a book recently out, CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE PET-LOVER'S SOUL. Two of the stories first appeared in the READERS DIGEST, the third in FAMILY CIRCLE. In September her book THE GOOD SHEPHERD is coming out, about a German shepherd and his owner who pioneered animal-assisted therapy. This is published by Andrews McMeel Publishing. Jo says, "Warning: it is a

three-Kleenex tale."

Ann Hand was accepted into The 1860 House Juried Exhibit and the Clinton Museum Juried Members Exhibit.

Elsa Herrmann won the A.M. Best Award for her watercolor "Chester Carousel" at the Lamington Presbyterian Church Annual Art Show.

Jim Laubach not only won First in Pastel for his "Bascule Bridge" at the Lamington Presbyterian Church Annual Art Show, he also won Honorable Mention for his watercolor "Ringo's '96" at that same show.

Diana Wilkoc Patton had a one-woman show at the Chester Public Library in July and won "Merit Award" Professional Watercolor at the Plainfield Outdoor Arts Festival. Some of Diana's students will be exhibiting in the circular gallery and display case at the Somerset County Library for the month of September (yes, with RVAA in the lobby!)

So now! Revel in the rest of summer! Please send me your news!